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SF601

HOG CHOLERA DECLARED A NATIONAL ÆMERGENCY

On October 11, 1972, Secretary of Agriculture, Earl L. Butz, declared a national emergency because of hog cholera, in order to protect the consumer's supply of pork products.

Noting that serious outbreaks of hog cholera in midwestern and southeastern States threaten the Nation's \$4 1/2 billion pork industry, Secretary Butz stressed that emergency action is needed

to eradicate the disease and thus prevent further losses of hogs, which might otherwise greatly decrease the supply of pork moving to consumers in the coming months.

Officials emphasized that hog cholera does not affect humans and is not transmissible to them. They pointed out that hog cholera is a virus disease which, though highly contagious and usually fatal to swine, is totally unrelated to the human cholera disease which is of bacterial origin. (Cont'd. page 2)

EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE ELIMINATED FROM FLORIDA

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the eradication of exotic Newcastle disease from Florida on October 24, 1972, simultaneously removing quarantines on Dade and Broward Counties for this foreign disease of poultry and other birds. Similar action has been taken by Florida officials under their authorities.

Veterinarians from USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) declared exotic Newcastle disease eradicated from the southern Florida counties after monitoring failed to disclose any infection since the last case on June 28. The monitoring program was carried out

with the cooperation of commercial poultrymen, backyard flock owners and the area's pet bird retailers and importers. (Cont'd. page 5)



EMERGENCY PROGRAMS
VETERINARY SERVICES
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

As part of the emergency action, USDA changed its regulations to increase the Federal share of indemnity from 50 to 75 percent in infected States. If isolated cases should occur in "Hog Cholera Free" States, the Federal share will remain at 90 percent. State indemnity is set at 25 and 10 percent, respectively, for infected and "Free" States.

This flareup of the disease has forced USDA to remove its "Hog Cholera Free" status from Nebraska, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Georgia, and Tennessee. Other States considered to be infected are: North Carolina, Mississippi, Texas, South Carolina, and Puerto Rico. Forty States are designated as "Hog Cholera Free."

By declaring a national emergency, the Secretary is authorized to acquire funds and people necessary to carry out an all-out disease eradication campaign against hog cholera.

Secretary Butz also called on hog farmers to lend their full support to the eradication effort by promptly reporting any sickness in their hogs to their veterinarians, county agents, or State or Federal animal health officials.

Eradication procedures include:

- l. Destruction of all infected and exposed herds, with indemnities paid to owners. Hogs are appraised for their actual value for meat, feeding or breeding purposes and indemnities are based on this appraisal, with maximum allowable indemnity determined by the program phase of the State involved.
 - 2. State and Federal quarantines of areas where infection is discovered.
- 3. Investigation and traceback on all cases of hog cholera to locate and eliminate the source of the disease and any possible spread. Specially trained diagnosticians are being assigned to affected areas for surveillance and investigation of suspected cases.
- 4. Tight enforcement of shipping rules and market regulations. Other eradication activities include inspection of garbage-feeding operations and a continuing search to detect unknown garbage feeders.

"We have the skill and know-how to eradicate this disease," pointed out Dr. F. J. Mulhern, APHIS Administrator. "We have demonstrated this capability by wiping out hog cholera in 46 States. Five of those States have been reinfected in the current outbreaks.

"These outbreaks are looked upon as the last effort of the virus to survive. It is a time that demands all-out effort by the industry, and the State and Federal governments to find the last remnants of the disease and eliminate it. That is the reason for the declaration of the emergency."

VFF FMERGENCY RELEASED

Secretary Butz released the Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) national emergency effective October 31, 1972. At the same time he also removed the Federal quarantine for VEE from the State of Texas. This quarantine had restricted the movement of horses from Texas since the entry of VEE into that State in 1971. These actions could be taken since the last case of VEE was on November 7, 1971, and extensive surveillance has revealed no indication of VEE viral activity in vectors, horses, or other mammals in the United States during 1972.



VEE ACTIVITIES

Surveillance ... More than 9,219 serum samples to test for VEE antibodies have been collected through October 1972. There is no evidence of epidemic VEE viral activity.

Texas A&M Entomology ... During the Period of 31 July to 30 September, 1972, Texas A&M performed adult mosquito surveys in five Texas counties located in the Coastal Zone and/or along the Rio Grande River.

Collections from each of the counties surveyed during the reporting period contained a number of mosquito species which have been incriminated as potential vectors of VEE. The vector species most frequently collected in high numbers were Aedes sollicitans, Ae. taeniorhynchus, and Psorophora confinnis.

Deinocerites pseudes was a predominant species in collections taken in the marshlands, east of Brownsville, Texas, in Cameron County.

A total of 6074 mosquitoes (in 152 pools) were tested for arboviruses during the reporting period. These mosquitoes represented collections taken in Jefferson, Brazoria, Cameron, Webb, Brewster, and Presido counties for the period between 16 May and 8 August, 1972. None of these mosquitoes proved positive for VEE.

Mexico ... The VEE virus isolate from mosquitoes in the Mexican State of Sonora near Nogales has been determined by CDC, Atlanta, to be the vaccine strain of VEE. The presence of vaccine virus in mosquitoes should be no cause for alarm.

Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) Investigations During October 1972 ...

During the month of October, investigations were conducted in 124 horse herds.

This brings the total number of investigations in calendar year 1972 to 987.

All of these cases have been diagnosed as negative for VEE except 15 cases for which laboratory results are not yet available. Cumulative totals of positive cases of western and eastern encephalitides in the United States for calendar year 1972 are described below:

Calendar Year 1972

Cumulative Total of Cases of Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE) in the U.S.

Arizona	1	Nebraska	18
Colorado	76	New Mexico	3
Idaho	15	North Carolina	1
Illinois	5	North Dakota	21
Indiana	1	Ohio	1
Iowa	16	0k1ahoma	7
Kansas	71	Oregon Oregon	5
Michigan	1	South Dakota	38
Minnesota	84	Texas	5
Missouri	1	Washington	21
Montana	29	Wyoming	21

Total 441

Cumulative Total of Cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in the U.S.

Connecticut	10	New Jersey	3
Florida	3	New York	1
Georgia	1	North Carolina	9
Maryland	1	Rhode Island	3
Mississippi	1		

Total 32

EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE ACTIVITIES

California ... On October 27, 1972, the areas under State and Federal quarantine for exotic Newcastle disease of poultry and other birds were further reduced. The reduction affects Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura Counties which are the only counties with areas still under quarantine restriction imposed on March 10, 1972, to halt the spread of this disease from California to other parts of the Nation. This action further reduced the quarantined area from approximately 4,200 square miles which was effective October 5, 1972, to about 2,300 square miles. The original quarantine imposed on March 14 covered approximately 45,000 square miles of eight southern California counties. Approximately 288 square miles remain under quarantine in Ventura County, 1200 square miles in Riverside County, and 812 square miles in San Bernardino County.

Use of sentinel birds continues to be a major method for locating infected flocks in the area (see related article on page 13). It was through the use of these sentinel birds that the area removed from quarantine was evaluated to be free of the disease and eligible for quarantine release. As of October 31, 1972, 8,440 sentinel birds had been placed in 1,638 backyard flocks, and

12,523 of these birds had been placed in 260 commercial flocks. The continued use of sentinel birds and other methods of surveillance will continue within the quarantined area to evaluate these areas so that they may be released from quarantine. During the month of October, four flocks consisting of approximately 75,123 birds were determined to be infected with exotic Newcastle and 39 flocks consisting of approximately 930 birds were determined to be exposed. The majority of the exposed flocks were in the Moorpark area of Ventura County.

During the month of October 2,644,000 birds in commercial flocks were vaccinated under program supervision. A total of 3,909,000 birds have been vaccinated during the fourth round of vaccination. This makes a total of slightly more than one hundred million birds that have been vaccinated under program supervision.

The scientific advisers met in Riverside, California, on October 31, 1972, to evaluate the eradication program.

Arizona ... Surveillance of the area which was formerly under quarantine was continued with no evidence of disease.

Other exotic Newcastle disease activities ... The quarantine which was imposed on the zoos in Birmingham, Alabama; St. Louis, Missouri; and San Francisco, California, as a result of the movement of exotic birds from Thailand from which exotic Newcastle disease had been diagnosed was released on October 12, 1972. An excess of 90 days had elapsed since the exposed birds were delivered to the zoos. These zoos were monitored closely during the quarantine period and no infection was revealed. All other premises except for the San Diego zoo which were quarantined because of this movement were released on October 5, 1972.

EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE ELIMINATED FROM FLORIDA (Cont'd. from page 1)

There were only eight cases of exotic Newcastle infection or exposure to infection during the outbreak and none of the cases involved commercial poultry flocks. All infected and exposed flocks were destroyed to eradicate the disease and their owners were indemnified for the birds.

Cooperative Federal-State eradication efforts began in early June, following the discovery of exotic Newcastle infection in a backyard poultry flock near Miramar, Florida. Originally, approximately 350 square miles were quarantined in Dade and Broward Counties.

A surveillance program will continue in the previously quarantined area for several months to make sure no undetected exotic Newcastle disease virus remains.

The United States and British Honduras have signed a cooperative agreement aimed at protecting that Central American country from foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest. The agreement became effective September 12. This brings to four the total of Central American countries that have signed agreements to fight these foreign diseases as authorized under Public Law 92-152. Earlier this year, agreements were signed with Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama.

Objectives of the cooperative agreements between the United States Department of Agriculture and the four central American countries are (1) to provide technical advice to help these countries prevent the introduction of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest; (2) to detect these diseases quickly should they be introduced; and (3) to provide for their eradication should outbreaks occur.

In 1971, Congress amended a 1968 law which authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with countries between (and including) Colombia--a foot-and-mouth disease country in South America--and Mexico in the prevention, control and eradication of foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest. The amendment added Canada as a cooperating country and extended the Secretary's authority to include "other communicable diseases of animals" such as Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (VEE), African swine fever, and screwworms. The amended authority also permits revision of present agreements to include other diseases as deemed necessary.

MODERN DATA BANK BEING ESTABLISHED IN EMERGENCY PROGRAMS

Emergency Programs has recently installed a rapid retrieval microfilm system in its Hyattsville office. It is hoped that all published literature and data on those diseases considered as emergency diseases can be coded by key words and put into this system. The Data Systems Application Division of ARS which is located in the National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland, provides Emergency Programs with a print out of current literature every 2 weeks. The Plum Island Animal Disease Laboratory, ARS, is also furnishing a monthly bibliography on these diseases. The articles are secured from the library system, coded by key words, and the entire article is microfilmed. Once microfilmed, articles are retrieved by a combination of author's name, title of article, and date. Specific information desired can be requested, and only those articles related to that information will be retrieved, all in a matter of minutes. A copy of the articles desired can also be made. system is capable of screening two thousand pages of microfilmed information in twenty seconds. The first diseases that are now being coded into the system are African swine fever, Newcastle disease, and hog cholera.

SCREWWORM ALERT LIRGED IN SOUTHEAST

All livestock owners in the Southeast are urged to be on the alert for screwworms during October and November.

Veterinarians with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) said the danger of screwworm infestations in southeastern States is greater now than at any time since the deadly parasites were eradicated from that region in 1958-59.



As reasons for concern, APHIS officials cited the discovery of screwworm cases in southern and southeastern States, and the expected yearly peak in screwworm infestations in the Southwest during October. They warn that the movement of screwworm-infested livestock into the Southeast, if undetected, could lead to the pest's reestablishment in that region.

Screwworms were found at St. Martinville, Louisiana, on September 19; at Sebring, Florida, on September 28; and at Demopolis, Alabama, on September 30. A case was also reported from Albany, Georgia, on September 30; Howard County, Arkansas, on October 23; Jefferson Davis Parrish, Louisiana, on October 24; and Oxford, Florida, on October 25. Intensive eradication measures have been taken in each case.

The Louisiana and Alabama infestations were in animals that had been moved from heavily infested areas of Texas; however, neither the Florida nor the Georgia cases involved animals that had been outside the immediate areas.

Special urgency this year arises from the massive invasion of screwworms northward from Mexico into the southwestern States. As a result of ideal conditions for screwworm survival and reproduction, more than 90,000 cases have been confirmed this year. Many of these cases have been found and reported by local veterinarians treating infested livestock and pets.

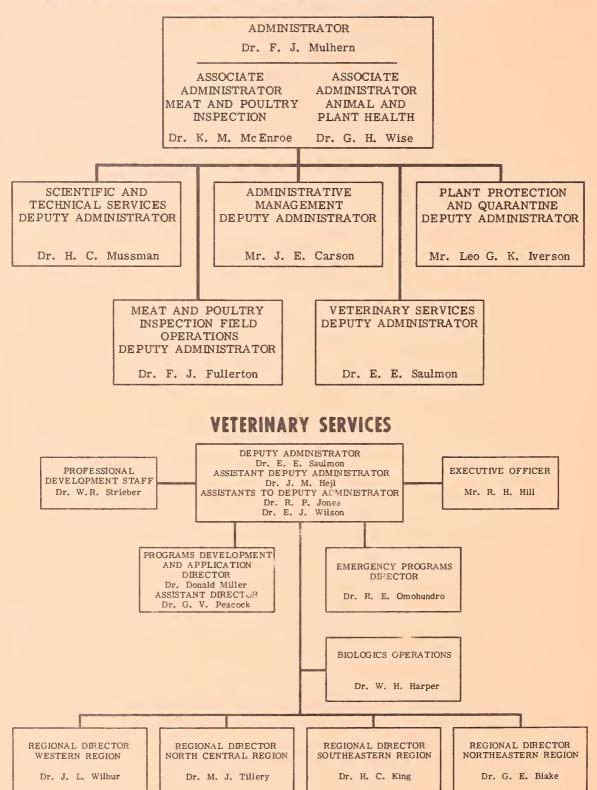
Federal and State veterinarians recommend that livestock owners check their animals regularly for screwworms, collect larvae or maggots for identification by animal health officials, and treat all wounds with screwworm smears or sprays.

APHIS officials explain that screwworm populations normally reach a peak during cool fall weather with October being the worst month. They are then killed by frost back to overwintering areas in south Texas and Mexico; however, without the present eradication program they might also survive in Florida and overwintering areas along the U.S.-Mexico border.

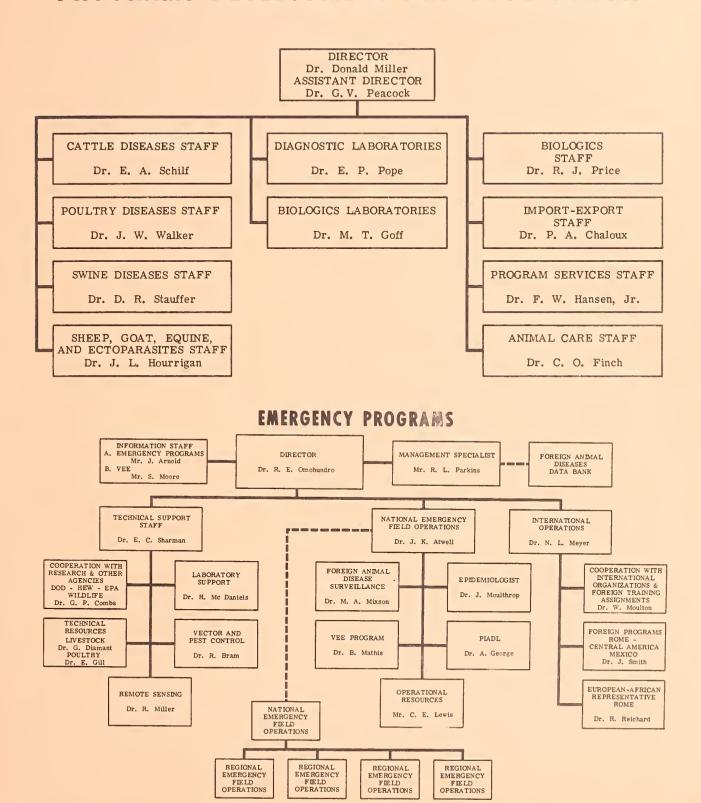
Screwworm buildups normally are prevented by the release of millions of sexually sterile screwworm flies (the adult form of the pest), which mate with fertile native flies and stop natural reproduction. APHIS officials said this year, however, the sterile flies were unable to overcome the massive number of fertile flies moving northward from Mexico.

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ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE



PROGRAMS DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION



FLY CONTROL INITIATED IN NEWCASTLE DISEASE ERADICATION

Exotic Newcastle disease (ND) is transmitted to susceptible poultry flocks primarily by exposure to infected birds, virus contaminated fomites, and man. However, prior to the exotic ND epizootic in California, no serious consideration had been given to the possible role of insects in the transmission of this disease.



In order to evaluate the possibility of insect involvement in ND transmission, a

team of two entomologists, from Emergency Programs and the Insects Affecting Man and Animals Research Laboratory, Gainesville, Florida, conducted a preliminary survey of insects associated with exposed and infected flocks in the quarantined area. In May 1972, samples of 14 insect species were collected in the vicinity of flocks in Fontana, Yucaipa, and Riverside. These samples were immediately frozen on dry ice and sent to the National Animal Disease Laboratory, Ames, Iowa, for virus isolation, identification, and characterization. The results revealed the presence of exotic ND virus on or in samples of the lesser housefly, Fannia cannicularis.

Therefore, the Western Insects Affecting Man and Animals Research Laboratory, ARS, Fresno, California, was requested to conduct in-depth studies of exotic ND transmission by insects in cooperation with the Veterinary Services Diagnostic Laboratory, NADL, Ames, Iowa, and the Technical Support Staff, Emergency Programs. The results of these studies are incomplete, and research in some areas is still underway. However, to date the original observation has been confirmed from four different isolations, and exotic ND virus has also been isolated on one occasion from a closely related fly species, Fannia femoralis. In addition, research has indicated that lesser housefly adults can transmit the virus directly from bird to bird under laboratory conditions, and can transmit for at least 48 hours after removal from a virus source.

These research findings, although still incomplete, have been sufficient to incriminate the lesser housefly as a potential disease vector which must be eliminated during an eradication campaign. A fly suppression program has, therefore, been initiated in cooperation with Plant Pest Control and Quarantine Programs personnel during the final phase of Newcastle disease eradication. This program is designed to reduce fly populations by 90 percent or more from the day a premises is identified as being infected, throughout the period of depopulation, disinfection, and cleaning.

Immediately after laboratory confirmation that a flock is infected with exotic ND virus, an entomologist inspects the premises to determine if fly populations are sufficiently high to warrant control measures.

Over half the flocks evaluated have not required fly control due to low or nonexistent fly populations. If the entomologist determines that there are sufficient flies present on a premises to pose the threat of transmission, the flock is immediately scheduled for fly control, and a contract is let with a local pest control operator certified by the State of California in the area of livestock insect control. A formulation of two organic phosphate insecticides is applied as a residual to interior walls and ceilings, and exterior walls of poultry houses, and to the droppings as a larvicide. The formulation is not applied directly to poultry, water reservoirs, or feed areas, and care is taken to keep insecticides out of lakes, streams, and ponds so that water will not be contaminated by cleaning equipment of disposal of wastes. Results of treatment are assessed 24 hours after application, and adult and larval fly populations are monitored every four days thereafter until cleaning and disinfection have been completed. Where indicated, repeat applications are made. The fly control program has effectively eliminated the potential of fly transmission of exotic ND virus.

HOG CHOLERA ACTIVITIES

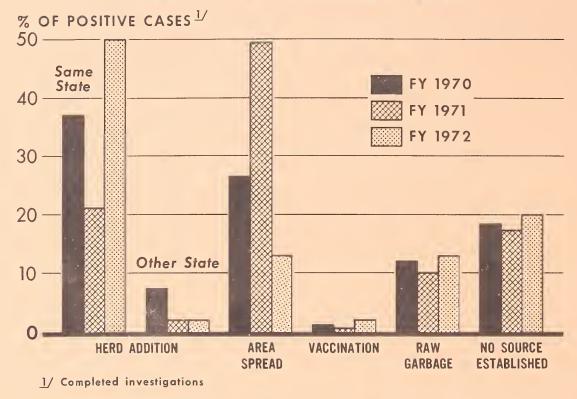
There have been 119 positive and 154 exposed cases of hog cholera in the United States from July 1 to October 31, 1972. These cases involved a total of 44,608 animals which have been or are being destroyed because of this disease and has resulted in indemnities of \$1,378,639. The positive cases of hog cholera occurred in Florida (1), Georgia (3), Indiana (40), Kansas (2), Kentucky (12), Louisiana (2), Mississippi (1), Nebraska (2), New Jersey (1), North Carolina (21), Ohio (17), Puerto Rico (3), South Carolina (1), Tennessee (8), and Texas (5).

Positive cases occurred during October in Georgia, Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and Texas.

Quarantines ... As of October 27, 1972, the following areas were quarantined because of hog cholera: The entire Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; all of Dade County, and portions of Jefferson, Johnson, and Washington Counties, Georgia; portions of Carroll County, Indiana; portion of Osborne County, Kansas; portions of Breckenridge, Hardin, and Meade Counties, Kentucky; portions of Kemper and Lauderdale Counties, Mississippi; portions of Cumberland, Harnett, Johnston and Sampson Counties, North Carolina; portions of Clark, Clinton, Fayette, Highland, and Madison Counties, Ohio; portions of Bedford, Cumberland, Fentress, Knox, and Roane Counties, Tennessee.

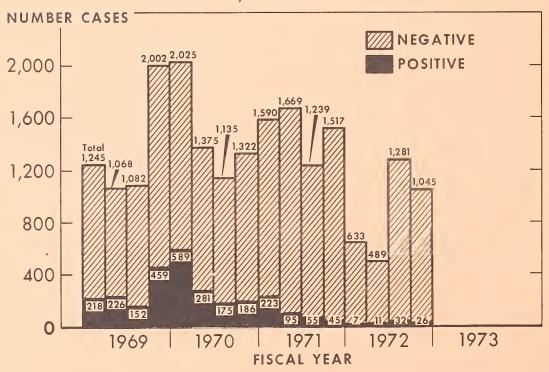
Additional temporary insepctors are now being hired where needed to expand inspections of food waste feeders for compliance with garbage cooking regulations, inspection of swine at livestock markets and to assist in diagnosis, appraisal, herd depopulations, and cleaning and disinfecting of infected premises.

SOURCES OF HOG CHOLERA CASES

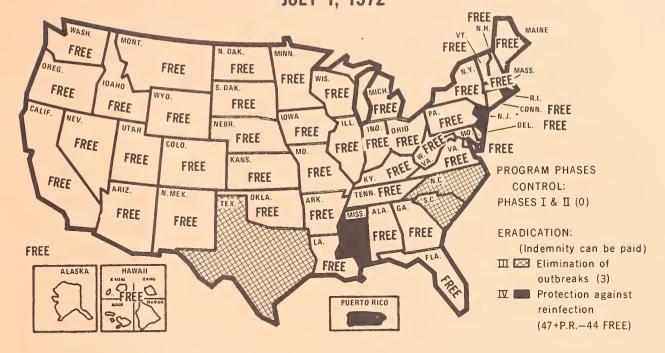


HOG CHOLERA CASES REPORTED

By Quarter



Hog Cholera Eradication Program



A VERY SPECIAL BIRD

Shipments of a very special kind of live cargo have been arriving at Los Angeles International Airport in recent weeks. In a restricted area of the air terminal, the clucking and cackling of chickens just arrived on flights from the east coast can be heard.

The chickens are sentinel birds destined for use in the State-Federal Department of Agriculture effort to lift the quarantine for exotic Newcastle disease from Southern California.

The birds come from Connecticut. Before making the cross-country trip to Southern California, sentinel birds spend their time laying very profitable eggs for their New England owners. Living in near sterile conditions the birds lay eggs worth fifty cents each. The eggs are used by laboratories for various biological tests.

In their eastern homes the birds are housed in rooms where the air supply is pumped through filters that block out dust, bacteria and even viruses like the one that causes exotic Newcastle disease.

From L.A. International the sentinel birds travel in disinfected trucks to a special security area at the Ontario Airport where they wait in air conditioned quarantine trailers under conditions like their previous home in New England until they are needed. State-Federal Newcastle Disease Task Force officials plan to soon have the birds arriving at the Ontario Airport on chartered cargo flights on which the sentinel birds will be the only passengers.

Disease security at the quarantine trailers is rigidly enforced by the Task Force. Personnel working with the sentinel birds work nowhere else where they might come in contact with other poultry. Visitors to the area aren't welcome. Besides these precautions, the trailer area is under a 24-hour guard.

All this security is essential if the sentinel birds are to do their job of helping remove the Newcastle quarantine from Southern California, say Task Force officials. Before they leave Connecticut the birds are tested for susceptibility to some 13 different avian diseases, including Newcastle disease. Because they are so apt to become infected with any of these poultry diseases, the security measures are necessary to protect the California flocks where they are placed. So far, the disease security efforts have worked perfectly, according to the Task Force.

When the time comes for the birds to go on duty on a poultry ranch or in someone's backyard poultry flock they travel in their own sanitized trucks. Standard closed delivery vans are used, but before the birds enter them the vans are given a bath in a combination of an acid spray, a neutralizing alkaline solution and a disinfectant spray.

When the birds arrive at the ranch the men delivering them don freshly laundered coveralls and rubber boots. As the deliverymen leave the ranch they scrub their boots with disinfectant and put their coveralls in plastic bags to be laundered before they are used again. When the delivery van returns to the Ontario security area it is given another chemical bath.

The sentinel birds have already scored their first victory over exotic Newcastle disease in Southern California. Some 6,500 sentinels, working on 65 commercial ranches and about 900 backyard flocks in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, were able to confirm the area free of exotic Newcastle virus and lift the quarantine in about 30 days. The next target area is the southern and western part of the Riverside County quarantine area.

Task Force officials say they would like to use the sentinel birds to lift the quarantine from all of the areas still under the restriction. This includes the western one-third of Riverside County, the southwestern one-tenth of San Bernardino County and the southern part of Ventura County. With the cooperation of area poultry owners, Task Force authorities estimate the quarantine could be entirely removed by early next year.

WORLD DISEASE REPORTS*

Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1972 N	lew Outbreaks
	Foot-and-Mouth Disease				
Angola Argentina Colombia Dahomey Greece Hong Kong India Iran Iraq Italy Kenya Lebanon Nigeria	April-May May-August April March-May April-July May-July JanFeb. May-June June-August July-Sept. April-May June-July	2 458 20 2 281 11 654 311 34 3 29 29	Spain Tanzania Tchad Thailand Tunisia Turkey Uganda Uruguay USSR Venezuela Viet Nam Western Germany	April-May March-July April-June JanMay May-June May-August JanApril April-June April-May May-June May-August June-August	59 12 1 24 28 627 13 6 47 14 1
(Kaduna)	JanMarch	6 Pindanna	.+		
		Rinderpes	<u> </u>		
Dahomey India Ivory Coast Lebanon	March-May January May-June June-July	86 4 10 5	Mali Niger Nigeria (Kaduna)	JanMarch JanApril April-Dec. 71 JanMarch 72	
			Tchad	April-May	4
	Conta	agious Bovine Ple	europneumonia	<u> </u>	
Angola Dahomey	April-July March-May	18	Niger Nigeria	JanApril	12
Ghana Guinea Ivory Coast	May May March-June	2 2 4 3 2 15	(Kaduna) Senegal Sierra	JanMarch FebMay	21
Jordan Mali	FebMarch	2	Leone Tchad	June-July	1
	JanMarch March-May	5	Togo	April-June June-May	4 4
Lumpy Skin Disease					
Burundi	May-July	3	South Afric	ca	
Madagascar		47		April-May	72 5
African Horsesickness					
South Africa (Rep.) June 71-June 72 6					

WORLD DISEASE REPORT*

Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks
Sheep Pox					
India Iran Israel Jordan	JanFeb. May-June March FebMarch	86 68 2 3 36	Niger Tunisia Turkey UAR (Egypt)	JanFeb. May-June May-July June-August	1 1 219 156
Morocco	April-June			oune-Augus c	130
<u>Dourine</u>					
South Africa (Rep.)	April-June	3	USSR	April-May	1
Glanders					
Turkey	May-July	25			
African Swine Fever					
Angola Mozambique	May-July June	2	Portugal Spain	June-August June-August	
Teschen Disease					
Czechoslovaki	ia May-July	27	Madagascar	FebJune	63

^{*} Adapted from International Office of Epizootics, Monthly Circulars Nos. 307, 308, and 309, 1972.

ARTHROPOD-BORNE ENCEPHALITIDES REPORTS FOR 1970 AND 1971 NOW AVAILABLE

Two reports entitled, "Reported Arthropod-borne Encephalitides in Horses and Other Equidae", are now available for the calendar years 1970 (APHIS 91-6) and 1971 (APHIS 91-7). These reports summarize investigations, laboratory results, and epizootiological data oriented to horses and other equidae throught the United States. Copies may be obtained by writing:

Veterinary Services Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service United States Department of Agriculture Federal Center Building Hyattsville, Maryland 20782